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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of )  
 )  
 Mats Dahlbäck et al. )  
 )  
 on "Method, Use and Device Concerning Cladding)  
 Tubes for Nuclear Fuel and a Fuel Assembly for a )  
 Nuclear Pressure Water Reactor" )  
 )  
 Serial No.: National Stage Entry of )  
 Int'l Appln. No. : PCT/SE2003/001685 )  
 )  
 International Filing Date: 30 October 2003 )  
 )  
 Filed: Simultaneously herewith ) (Docket No. 1026-0001WOUS)

Middletown, Connecticut, April 29, 2005

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

S I R:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows with reference to the Substitute Specification of the International Application, filed simultaneously herewith:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 5 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 9 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.